

House Authorizes Probes Of Kennedy, King Slayings

United Press International

The House voted 280-65 today to create a new committee to reopen investigations into the deaths of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr.

Speaker Carl Albert said he would name retiring Rep. Thomas N. Downing, D-Va., to head the 12-member committee for the rest of this year. It would have to be recreated when the new Congress is seated in January.

Downing promised his colleagues that the committee's efforts would be focused only on the Kennedy and King deaths although the resolution establishing the panel allows it to look into "any others (deaths) the select committee shall determine." He asked for \$250,000 in funds for this year.

Most of the opposition to the measure centered around authority to look into other deaths.

Rep. Sidney Yates, D-Ill., said it

"gives the committee enormous powers to go into any assassination attempt of any person in the world."

Rep. John Anderson, R-Ill., said the authority was included to allow the committee to get into any other deaths which may have been associated with the Kennedy and King assassinations.

He mentioned the deaths of Sam Giancana and John Roselli, two alleged Mafia leaders, who were killed after it was disclosed they were associated with a CIA plot to kill Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. Other allegations have been made that the plot on Castro may have been connected with the assassination of Kennedy in 1963.

Downing said several other recent revelations have raised enough questions in the minds of the American people concerned about whether proper investigations were conducted into the two assassinations.